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HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS REPORT

October 1, 2009 Crop Prospects

Louisiana Crop Prospects

As rice harvest has progressed, farmers have seen better yields than they expected. All indications continue to point to a record rice yield. Meanwhile, rainfall has kept soybean and cotton farmers out of their fields, slowing the harvest down.

Louisiana **rice** production is forecast at 30.1 million cwt, up two percent from the previous month and up 11 percent from 2008. Rice acreage for harvest is forecast at 470,000 acres. Yield per acre is forecast at 6,400 pounds, up 100 pounds from previous month and up 570 pounds from last year. If realized, this will be the highest yield on record.

Soybean production is expected to total 35.9 million bushels in Louisiana, up three percent from the September estimate and up 14 percent from 2008. Acreage planted to soybeans was revised to 1,020,000 acres and harvested acreage to 970,000, both down 30,000 acres from the June estimate. Yield is forecast at 37 bushels per acre, up two bushels from the previous month and up four bushels from last year.

Louisiana's **cotton** production is expected to total 380,000 bales, down six percent from the September estimate but up 35 percent from last year. Acreage of cotton expected for harvest is forecast at 225,000 acres, down 9,000 acres from a year ago. The expected yield per acre, at 811 pounds, is down 53 pounds from the September forecast but up 235 pounds from 2008.

Louisiana's **corn** production is forecast at 81.8 million bushels, down ten percent from the previous month's estimate but up 11 percent from last year. Estimated production is down from last month as corn harvested acreage was revised to 620,000 acres, down 60,000 acres from the June 1 estimate. Yield per acre, at 132 bushels, is down two bushels from last month and down 12 bushels from last year's yield.

The Louisiana **sugarcane** crop is estimated at 11.2 million net tons, up four percent from the previous month but down two percent from last year. Harvested acreage for sugar and seed is forecast at 400,000 acres, down 5,000 acres from last year. Yield is forecast at 28 net tons per acre, up one net ton from the September estimate but down .3 net ton from last year.

Sorghum production is estimated at 5.2 million bushels in the state, down 28 percent from the September estimate and down 46 percent from 2008. Acreage expected for harvest was revised to 67,000 acres, down 43,000 acres from last year. If realized, harvested acreage will be the lowest since 1980 when the state harvested 14,000 acres. Yield is forecast at 77 bushels per acre, up two bushels from last month but down 10 bushels from a year ago.

Louisiana production of **all hay** is estimated at 1.2 million tons, down eight percent from the August estimate but up nine percent from a year ago. Acreage for harvest is forecast at 450,000 acres, up 20,000 acres from 2008. Yield, at 2.6 tons per acre, is expected to be up 0.1 ton from last year.

Louisiana's **pecan** production is forecast at 8 million pounds, compared to five million pounds last year.

United States Crop Prospects

Rice production is forecast at 221 million cwt, up one percent from the September forecast and up eight percent from last year. Area for harvest is expected to total 3.1 million acres, unchanged from the previous forecast but up four percent from 2008. As of October 1, the U.S. yield is forecast at 7,115 pounds per acre, up 64 pounds from the September 1 forecast and 269 pounds above the 2008 average yield of 6,846 pounds per acre. Expected yields increased from the previous month in California, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas. The Arkansas forecasted yield of 6,850 pounds per acre was unchanged from the September 1 forecast, while Mississippi's expected yield is down 200 pounds per

acre from the previous month. Record yields are forecast in Louisiana, Missouri and Texas.

Soybean production is forecast at a record high 3.3 billion bushels, up slightly from the September forecast and up ten percent from last year. Based on October 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 42.4 bushels per acre, up 0.1 bushel from last month and up 2.7 bushels from 2008. If realized, this will be the third highest yield on record. Compared with last month, yields are forecast higher or unchanged in all states except Michigan, Mississippi, Ohio and New York. The largest decrease in yield from the September forecast is expected in Mississippi where persistent rain during the last two weeks of the month increased the potential impact of disease. Increases of two bushels are expected in Kentucky, Louisiana, Oklahoma and Virginia. If realized, the forecasted yield in Alabama, Georgia and Nebraska will be a record high and the forecasted yield in Arkansas, Kentucky, North Carolina and Pennsylvania will tie the previous record high. Area for harvest in the U.S. is forecast at 76.6 million acres, down slightly from the previous estimate but up three percent from 2008.

All cotton production is forecast at 13.0 million 480-pound bales, down three percent from last month but up one percent from last year. **Upland cotton** production is forecast at 12.6 million 480-pound bales, down three percent from last month but up two percent from last year. Producers in the Delta region are expecting decreased yield due to excessive amounts of rainfall received during September. Upland growers in Alabama and Georgia are expecting record high yields. The **American-Pima** production forecast, at 367,000 bales, was carried forward from the August 2009 forecast.

Corn production is forecast at 13.0 billion bushels, up slightly from last month and eight percent higher than 2008. Based on conditions as of October 1, yields are expected to average 164.2 bushels per acre, up 2.3 bushels from September and 10.3 bushels above last year. If realized, this yield will be the highest on record and total production will be second only to the record set in 2007. Yield forecasts remained unchanged or increased from last month across the Corn Belt, Great Plains and Ohio Valley where warm, dry weather during much of September helped push the late-developing corn crop towards maturity. Light frost was reported in parts of the northern tier of the Great Plains and Corn Belt in late September. However, temperatures were not considered low enough to

terminate crop growth. Based on administrative information, acreage updates were made in several states and farmers now expect to harvest 79.3 million acres for grain, down one percent from the September forecast but one percent above 2008.

Sugarcane production for sugar and seed is forecast at 28.5 million tons, up two percent from the September 1 forecast and up three percent from 2008. Producers intend to harvest 852,700 acres for sugar and seed during the 2009 crop season, unchanged from last month but 15,300 acres below last year. Expected yield is forecast at 33.4 tons per acre, up 0.6 ton from the previous forecast and up 1.6 tons from 2008. Changes in production are a result of yield increases in Louisiana and Texas where timely rainfall has led to late-season crop growth and improved conditions.

Sorghum production is forecast at 364 million bushels, down seven percent from last month and down 23 percent from last year. Based on administrative information, acreage changes were made in several states. Planted area is 6.6 million acres, down five percent from the previous forecast and down 20 percent from 2008. All of the major sorghum producing states are at or below last year's levels. This is the third lowest planted acreage on record. Area harvested for grain is forecast at 5.7 million acres, down five percent from last month and down 22 percent from last year. Based on October 1 conditions, yield is forecast at 64.0 bushels per acre, down 1.5 bushels from September and down one bushel from last year.

All Hay production is forecast at 15.3 million tons, up one percent from the August forecast and up five percent from last year. Based on October 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 2.5 tons per acre, up .02 ton from August and up .11 ton from last year. Harvested area, at 60.2 million acres, is unchanged from the August forecast but up 115,000 acres from 2008.

Pecan production was forecast at 309 million pounds (utilized, in-shell basis), up 59 percent from last year's crop but 20 percent below the 2007 production year. All states in the pecan estimating program have higher production forecasts than last year, with the exception of Kansas. Nationally, improved varieties are forecast to produce 264 million pounds or 85 percent of the total, while native and seedling varieties, at 45.5 million pounds, make up the remaining 15 percent of production. The 2009 crop is expected to be larger than last year's mainly due to the alternate bearing pattern typical of pecans.

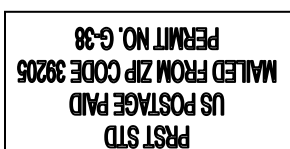
CROP REPORT - LOUISIANA							
October 1, 2009							
CROP	ACRES EXPECTED FOR HARVEST (000)		FORECAST YIELD PER ACRE		UNIT	FORECAST PRODUCTION (000)	
	2008	2009	2008	2009		2008	2009
Corn for grain	510	620	144	132	bushels	73,440	81,840
Upland Cotton	234	225	576	811	lbs:bales	281	380
Rice	464	470	5,830	6,400	lbs:cwt	27,037	30,080
Sorghum for grain	110	67	87	77	bushels	9,570	5,159
Soybeans	950	970	33	37	bushels	31,350	35,890
Sugarcane (sugar & seed)	405	400	28.3	28.0	net tons	11,462	11,200
Hay, all	430	450	2.5	2.6	tons	1,075	1,170
Pecans, all	---	---	---	---	pounds	5,000	8,000

CROP REPORT - UNITED STATES							
October 1, 2009							
CROP	ACRES EXPECTED FOR HARVEST (000)		FORECAST YIELD PER ACRE		UNIT	FORECAST PRODUCTION (000)	
	2008	2009	2008	2009		2008	2009
Corn for grain	78,640	79,294	153.9	164.2	bushels	12,101,238	13,018,058
All Cotton	7,569	7,732	813	807	lbs:bales	12,815	12,998
Rice	2,976	3,101	6,846	7,115	lbs:cwt	203,733	220,647
Sorghum for grain	7,271	5,681	65.0	64.0	bushels	472,342	363,723
Soybeans	74,681	76,619	39.7	42.4	bushels	2,967,007	3,250,113
Sugarcane (sugar & seed)	868.0	852.7	31.8	33.4	net tons	27,603	28,504
Hay, all	60,062	60,177	2.43	2.54	tons	145,672	152,729
Pecans, all	---	---	---	---	pounds	193,890	309,200

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